



State of Washington

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

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Main Office location: Natural Resources Building - 1111 Washington Street SE - Olympia, WA

DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (DNS) AND ADOPTION OF EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT (ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT)

Name of Proposal: DNS/Adoption 15-040: CHEWUCH RIVER RESTORATION RM 13-15.5

Description of Proposal:

The Methow Valley Ranger District of the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, in partnership with the Yakama Nation, propose to re-establish, enhance and improve the diversity of fish habitat for threatened and endangered anadromous fish species including Chinook Salmon, Steelhead and bull trout in the 13-15.5 mile reach of the Chewuch River. Lack of habitat diversity in the Chewuch River has been identified as limiting fish productivity for anadromous fish listed under the Endangered Species Act.

The U.S. Forest Service, Methow Valley Ranger District, and the Yakama Nation are currently proposing restoration actions on the Chewuch River from river mile 13 to 15.5. This is the third in a series of Chewuch River restoration projects. Additional project proposals are anticipated in future years, but information about site locations or designs has not been provided. Therefore, the future proposals are not considered reasonably foreseeable actions for the purpose of this analysis. Plans for restoration are designed to enhance fish habitat and to improve fish habitat diversity by:

- increasing habitat complexity by introduction of large wood,
- increasing pool habitat, and
- restoring historic off-channel habitat.

More information is available in the attached Environmental Assessment and Decision Notice and FONSI.

Proponent/Applicant: Yakama Nation

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Contact: Chris Butler, Habitat Fisheries Biologist
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Location of Proposal, including street, if any: Chewuch River between river miles 13 and 15.5 between East Chewuch Road and West Chewuch Road, north of Winthrop, Okanogan County, Washington: Township 36N, Range 21E, Section 13.

Title of document being adopted: Chewuch River Restoration River Miles 13-15.5 Environmental Assessment

Agency that prepared document being adopted: U.S. Forest Service

Date adopted document was prepared: May 2015

Description of document (or portion) being adopted: The entire contents of the Environmental Assessment.

If the document being adopted has been challenged, please describe: N/A

Name of agency adopting the document: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

The document is available to be read at:

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife - Natural Resources Building,
1111 Washington Street SE, Olympia, WA, Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm.

This document is also available for review online at:

http://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/sepa/sepa_final_docs_2015.html

Adoption of Existing Environmental Document: After independent review, we have identified and adopted the referenced document as being appropriate for this proposal. The document meets our environmental review needs for the current proposal and will accompany the proposal to the decision maker.

We issued this Determination of Nonsignificance/Adoption Notice under WAC 197-11-360. We will **not act on this proposal for 7 days** from the date of issue below.

Responsible Official: Lisa Wood

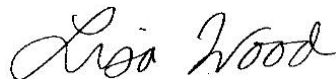
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DATE OF ISSUE: June 5, 2014 **SIGNATURE:**



SEPA Log Number: 14-040.dns/adpt